## NOT ORIGINAL "MARK TWAIN"

**Samuel Clemens Was Second Writer to Make Use of World-Famous Nom de Plume.**

No lesser authority than Albert Bigelow Paine, in a recent publication, comes forward with the advice that there were two "Mark Twains"; that Capt. Isaiah Sellers, a river steamboat captain, contributing paragraphs to the New Orleans newspapers, usually signed himself "Mark-Twain."

According to Mr. Paine, the articles of Capt. Sellers often began: "My opinion for the citizens of New Orleans," etc., and would prophesy river conditions and recite incidents and comparisons dating as far back as 1811. To the younger pilots on the Mississippi, among them Samuel Clemens, then 23 years old, the articles of Capt. Sellers afforded much amusement. In an attempt to further this amusement, Samuel Clemens wrote a preposterous story of a cruise he was supposed to have made in the year 1763, the ship's crew being Choctaws and the captain a Chinaman. The story was satirical of the writing of Capt. Sellers, and was thought to have much literary value. Upon the insistence of one of his friends Clemens permitted the article to be published in the True Delta in May, 1859. Capt. Sellers never wrote again for the newspapers—his literary pride had been wounded.

The nom de plume, "Mark Twain," lay idle for nearly four years. It appeared again, revived by Samuel Clemens, signed to a political letter in the Virginia City (Nev.) Enterprise on February 2, 1863. Shortly after that time it was always signed to the works of Samuel Clemens. Clemens is said to have revived the name because of his deep regret for having so thoughtlessly wounded the feelings of Capt. Sellers.

### Largest English Walnut Tree.

What is declared to be the largest English walnut tree in California is boasted of by Sonora. Measurements showed the tree to be 79 feet tall, having a branch spread of 89 feet, and nine feet from the ground it was found to be three and one-half feet in circumference. Its age is unknown to residents there, but the oldest inhabitant declares it to be as old as himself.

This is only one of a series of celebrated trees. On William Lewis' ranch is a cherry tree over 50 years old which is still producing well. An enormous Bleinheim apricot tree on the D. W. Scofield place, aged over 60 years, still bears some fruit. On the Abbot ranch is an apple orchard past the century mark, which in 1919, according to the ranch owner, yielded approximately one ton to the tree.

A winesap, also over the 60—year mark, produced 2,200 pounds of apples in the same year. A Bartlett pear tree, half a century old, bore nearly a ton of good pears in 1919. To cap the senile producers, one vineyardist declared he has some 60-year-old vineyards producing over 10 tons to an acre.

### Indians Built of Stone.

Ruins which are held by archaeologists to be the forerunners of the Pueblo cliff dwellings have been excavated and explored in the Texas Panhandle by W. W. K. Moorehead, director of an expedition sent out by the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Moorehead believes that the Indians in the Canadian and Cimarron valleys were the first to desert the buffalo tepee for stone construction. Later these housing pioneers, in his opinion, moved west, and built their famous cliff dwellings in the Colorado River valley and other parts of the Rocky mountains.

The expedition has worked through four counties in northwest Texas and several counties in Oklahoma, and has observed about one hundred stone foundations, usually in groups of a dozen or more, but situated in almost inaccessible canyons and wild places. The foundations range from three to five feet deep and apparently supported structures very much like the Mexican adobes of today.—Detroit News.

### Delhi Capital of India.

Because of its rich history as the fountain-head of power in India, Delhi —not Calcutta, which was then the capital—was chosen in 1877 as the site of the durbar, or gathering of native kings and princes, at which Queen Victoria was proclaimed empress of India. Again in 1903 Delhi was chosen when a durbar was held to crown King Edward VII emperor, and once more in 1911 when George V assumed that title. On the latter occasion the new emperor announced that this ancient city of emperors would be restored as the capital of India and its 250,000,000 subjects.—National Geographic Society Bulletin.

### Fingerprints Without Camera.

Through a discovery made by a police sergeant in Washington, D. C., it is possible to take permanent fingerprints from a transparent object—such as a sheet of glass—without the use of a camera. On the fingerprint on the glass he sprinkles a covering of aluminum powder, and a contact print can then be made direct on to a piece of sensitized film or photographic paper.

### World's Seed Garden.

According to a writer in the Mentor magazine, more seed is being grown in this country than in Europe. A single company in California sows more than three thousand acres to seed plants. One sweet pea bed is 300 acres broad. There is a seed market at Toledo, O., where brokers speculate in clover seed "futures" as wheat is gambled on in the Chicago pit.

### Would Spare Daddy's Feelings.

Marion is fond of her daddy and never wishes to hurt his feelings. One day she ate too much candy and made herself so sick she had to go to bed. Every little while her daddy would go in to see how she was, and finally, when he went in, before he had time to ask her, she said: "Don't ask me, daddy, for I will have to tell you I feel worse."

## USE FOOT PLOW

### Primitive Implement Is Still Employed in Peru.

**Ancient System of Cultivation Found Sufficient to Produce All Crops the Country Needs.**

In the intermediate or temperate valleys of the eastern Andes, at altitudes between 5,000 and 11,000 feet, agriculture was of the terrace system, which the ancient Peruvians carried to a higher development than any other people, says a report of the Smithsonian institution. Hundreds of square miles of land were reclaimed by straightening rivers, walling, filling leveling and covering with a deep layer of fine soil. All of these artificial lands had also to be irrigated, often by carrying the water channels for many miles through craggy mountains or along precipitous slopes. After being cropped with maize continuously for centuries the terrace farms are still fertile and have enabled millions of people to live in a region that in its natural condition could have been of no use for agricultural purposes.

In still higher valleys, at altitudes of from 11,000 to 14,000 feet, the climate is colder, moisture is more abundant and the slopes are more gentle. There is less need of terracing or irrigation, but the alpine grasses and other small plants form a dense, fibrous turf, a condition like that of northern countries where the plow is the basic implement of agriculture. The farming of the mountain grass lands was done by human labor, facilitated by peculiar implement for breaking the sod.

The Peruvian foot plow consists of a rather stout wooden handle between five and six feet long, shod, as in modern times, by an iron point about three inches wide and two or three times as long. On the left side, just above the iron point is a footrest bound to the handle by leathern thongs. A few inches farther up is another rest, attached in the same way, projecting forward. This is for the left hand, which thus assists the foot in applying the weight of the body to pushing the implement into the soil.

Two "plowmen" work together, so that their plows enter the soil only a few inches apart under the same piece of sod, which is then pried up. A boy or woman kneels in front of each "team" to turn the sods as fast as they are loosened. In the rarefied atmosphere of the high mountains plowing is a very strenuous exercise and the work has to be done in short shifts. The tough sod disintegrates during the long growing season into a loose black soil. The cultivation of potatoes by this method is carried on to an altitude of more than 14,000 feet on the southern slopes.

The hardest varities of potatoes are too bitter to be eaten in the fresh state, but are dried as a reserve stock of food after freezing, thawing and threading out the juice. The natives are familiar with the names, habits and distinctive qualities of many varieties of potatoes, including several types that are very different from any known in the United States. The flavors, colors and textures of the different kinds of potatoes are as keenly appreciated among the high altitude people as the varieties of apples or peaches are with us. The firm textures and distinct flavors of the Peruvian varieties may be due in part to their being less affected by cooking, since water boils at lower temperatures in the high altitudes. Potatoes are not baked or roasted, fuel being too scarce.

### Other Lands, Other Ways.

Mother and I were traveling abroad and as we had a compartment to ourselves one day, we put our bags in the seats. At one stop a man boarded the train and stood in the doorway of our compartment, gazing at us and then at our luggage. I removed it. He entered, seated himself, and glued his gaze to me, making me most uncomfortable. In the course of fifteen minutes his head rested on my shoulder. I jumped up. I couldn't remonstrate as I didn't speak his language, so I went out into the passageway and found the guard, who assured me that the man would be removed. I have been informed since, by people who know more about the customs abroad than I do, that by removing my bags from the seat I gave the man a direct invitation to flirt. —Chicago Tribune.

### Whale Hide for Tire.

The leading novelty at the recent automobile show at Seattle, Wash., was a tire made from the hide of a Pacific coast whale. Except for its pliable nature and a light red color none would have suspected it being other than the rubber product.

At the tannery where it was turned out it was said that such tires can be manufactured at one-fourth the cost of those of rubber. The hides of shark, wolf fish and whales can be used. As to the supply of these fishes it was assured auto owners that it is inexhaustible.

Another assurance was given to the doubting ones in that a single whale skin will produce over 500 standard tires.

### City and Country People.

The best and most hopeful feature in any people is undoubtedly the instinct that leads them to the country to take root there, and not that which senus them flocking to the town and its distractions. The lighter the snow the more it drifts; and the more frivolous the people, the more they are blown, by one wind or another into towns and cities.—John Burroughs.

### Corned Beef.

The "corned" in "corned beef" comes from the verb "corn," which Webster defines as follows: "To preserve and season with salt in grains; to sprinkle with salt; to cure by salting; now, specifically, to salt lightly in brine or otherwise, as to corn beef."

## GYPSIES FEEL WAR'S EFFECTS

**In Rumania They Are Said to Be Starving—Slaves to Ancient Superstitions.**

Of the dozens of different races in Rumania, none is more picturesque than the gypsies. Like their prototypes in other lands they rove the country in great caravans, earning stray pennies by begging, dancing, playing and telling fortunes.

In the cities they sometimes earn their "bread and onions" by shining shoes, peddling lemonade or acting as porters.

The high cost of living, which has drawn tight the strings of every purse, has brought double hardships to these wanderers. No matter how well they play their violins, no matter what good fortunes they see in the stars for those about them, they find it hard to coax pennies from the empty pockets of the war-oppressed Rumanian people. Many of them have starved to death.

Among the gypsy women and girls are to be found some striking types of beauty. Dark of complexion and hair, with shining, long-lashed black eyes, they are a delight to look upon. They have not yet acquired the art of using cosmetic as their sisters in other countries do.

Superstition plays a large part in the life of the gypsy. One of the many ancient customs which will survive among the women is to beat themselves frightfully if one of their children dies. They believe that the death has been caused by an evil spirit having entered the body of the child as well as the mother, and that if they chastise themselves the spirit will depart.

One Rumanian gypsy woman whom a relief worker visited was apparently about to die from pneumonia. The doctor found numerous bruises all over her chest, and these had seriously aggravated her condition. On questioning her he learned her bruises were due to a beating she had given herself because one of her eight children had died.

### Art of Conversation.

Conversation reaches its best when it leaves veils and convention behind it, when people speak face to face. It may be impossible to attain this with many; in this perfect sense there are only a few with whom we really talk, and we cannot always talk even with them. It is, of course, always easy to exchange words, but many words may be uttered and yet nothing have been said.

There are moments when the veils are thrust aside and the closest intercourse becomes for a brief time possible. It is then that people talk of the one thing they know best, of their own self, and the self's relation to life's mysteries; it is then, and then only, that we approach the absolute, the true, though still it may be only at a distance.

The last reserve between soul and soul is rarely surrendered; and there is always the reserve, the limitation, that lies in the nature of spoken words.—Arthur L. Salmon in Chicago Daily News.

### Not a Jim Dandy.

Dealers and manufacturers seeking permits to handle alcohol are required to answer innumerable questions on blanks supplied by the office of Charles J. Orbison, federal prohibition director for Indiana. Few fill out the blanks correctly the first time. Many become worried before they are through.

A permit seeker from the northern part of the state sent in his application. Then he had to change a serial number and then again a decimal fraction and then something else until at last he became dissatisfied with the whole arrangement. He wrote a letter to the prohibition director, and this is what he said:

"Say, do you know what a Jim Dandy is? Well, a Jim Dandy is a fellow who can keep up with all this — red tape and monkey business connected with alcohol. And I'm not a Jim Dandy."—Indianapolis News.

### Ex-Convicts Hold Reunion.

There is one news story in New York that the newspapers kindly suppress each year. At least they do not mention any names. In one of the big hotels there is an annual dinner in a private banquet hall. Well-dressed men in evening clothes to the number of forty attend. There is nothing about them to indicate that they are anything but what they are—successful business men. They discuss over their meal the topics of the day and all know each other by first names. But when cigars are lighted, waiters and bus boys are driven out and the doors are locked. Then they discuss the past. All are ex-convicts who have served terms in Sing Sing. Two or three former wardens are usually the guests of honor. They have proved that an ex-convict can make good.

### Trying to Save the Elk.

The elk are in danger of extermination, 10,000 head supposed to be in the Yellowstone having disappeared. This seems to be caused by cattle men grazing their herds on areas formerly occupied by the elk, which perish in great numbers when they find their old pastures denuded. Ranchmen in many cases have fed them hay out of pity and the federal authorities have bought and stored hay in the hope of preserving the breed. Cattle men are not much interested by these splendid examples of animal life, so that the government should do something on a large scale to preserve them.—Scientific American.

### At The "B. R. Z."

Margaret, 3, obliged to spend a night with her mother at the Y. W. C. A., awoke to insist upon a drink. Mother was compelled for lack of a glass and fountain to make a drinking cup of her hands. Margaret, very much impressed, frequently recalled the incident and several months later astonished us by asking: "Mother, why don't you ever let me drink out of your hands like you did that night at the B. R. Z.?—Cleveland Plain Dealer.